

# Radford Army Ammunition Plant

## Radford, VA



### The Challenge

The Radford Army Ammunition Plant is owned by the U.S. Department of the Army and operated by Alliant Ammunition and Powder Co. LLC. It contains 1969 buildings and occupies over 6900 acres. The facility manufactures solid propellants used in small arms (sporting and military), anti-aircraft, tanks, artillery, and small rockets.

Radford is a RCRA permitted facility which is subject to Corrective Action and, due to the magnitude and extensive operating history, maintains areas potentially subject to cleanup via the Superfund program. While clean-up of Federal Facilities is typically done under CERCLA authority,

in this particular instance, using RCRA authorities had more potential to increase the economic development potential for this Government Owned/Contractor Operated facility.

### The Solution

EPA Region 3 worked cooperatively with facility representatives and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and developed a unique RCRA Corrective Action Permit that addressed both RCRA and CERCLA concerns yet allowed economic development to continue at the site. In an effort to reduce duplication of effort and investigation costs, the Corrective Action Permit contains provisions which closely parallel those typically found in Federal Facilities Agreements negotiated in the CERCLA program. In

addition, remediation of the site will be integrated with other ongoing site activities under the direction of one Project Manager in the Region's Superfund program.

### The Benefit

The economic development of underutilized Army plants is paying off, under the Armaments Retooling and Manufacturing Support Initiative. At Radford, 19 commercial tenant activities have located or relocated/expanded there. These businesses include commercial powders, pyrotechnics, metalworking, wholesalers of pipe, valves & fittings, hardware, tools and fasteners, a wellness center, and office activities. A total of 360 tenant jobs have been created, of which over 300 are manufacturing. This philosophy of diversification has brought new jobs to the surrounding community. The estimated economic impact of each new good manufacturing job is 1-3 indirect support jobs for the community.

### For More Information

Region 3 Superfund Contact:  
Robert Thomson  
215-814-3357  
[thomson.bob@epa.gov](mailto:thomson.bob@epa.gov)

Corrective Action Contact:  
Russell Fish  
(215)814-3226  
[fish.russell@epa.gov](mailto:fish.russell@epa.gov)